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Write a News Note Not A Blue Note

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in the interest of consumer education and is in no way an advertising medium, a study of it may increase the consumer's purchasing ability so much that she will save for herself much more than the actual cost of the guide.

This guide may be purchased from Sears Roebuck and Company for the price of \$1.00 postpaid.

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HISTORY of Art Criticism, by Lionello Venturi, Ph. D., is a scholarly book of great importance, taking up especially the philosophical derivations and aspects of the field of study as it has developed slowly through the centuries. After first defining and explaining its field, the book passes to a historical review of critical approaches to art, from obscure beginnings among the Greeks through medieval, romantic and classic periods in various countries, to the rapidly enlarging fields of the more recent art criticism.

Important and illuminating sections study the German philosophers (Kant, Hegel, Goethe and others) in this aspect of their work, and some of the great Italian painters as their thought took this angle; also the manner in which the first attempts to write biographies

of artists suggested and developed the form of study with which this book is concerned. Here is a new approach for the art student and also for the critic and philosopher, with divergent fields of thought brought into vital relationship. The author tells us that he has written the book for American consumption.

The writer is Professor of Art History in the University of Turin, and author of numerous books on Italian Art.

History of Art Criticism, by Lionello Venturi, Ph. D., Litt. D. \$3.75.

✧

MRS. RAWSON, in the new book, "Handwrought Ancestors," covers still another segment of early American life. We have read much of the old handwrought articles made by our ancestors, but we have perhaps paid too little attention to what the making of these things did to their makers. This book deals with the old farm tinkering shops and those other tiny shops along village streets, in which our cherished antiques came into existence. Mrs. Rawson tells how the ancestors themselves grew with the making of these things; grew to be not only finer and more capable workmen, but finer characters be-

cause of their honest care of details, and their ingenuity in producing something lovely out of the raw. She shows that work done "pon honor" reacted most of all to the good of the worker.

To those who love the simple and beautiful things of yesterday's workaday world this book will serve as a passport to the mysteries of their beginnings, for it is written in an easy tempo which allows the reader time to loiter at many an old shop, visit with the tinkerer, the chairmaker, the coffinmaker, the currier, and more than a score of others of our ancestors who loved the feel of a hammer in their hands or the glow of a forge kept ruddy by the pumping of the great old "leathern lungs."

Much of the interest of this book centers about the pendrawings with which the author has illustrated it. There are one hundred and fifty sketches of quaint shops in farmyard and on dusty road, their equipment, and the tools which intrigue us so today, and many a finished article which, though made for use in the old days, is treasured for its beauty today.

Handwrought Ancestors, by Marion Nicholl Rawson. Published by E. P. Dutton and Co., Inc., New York, N. Y. \$5.00.



Write A News Note Not A Blue Note

By Betty Shoemaker

YOU'VE been asked to make out a list of your hobbies often enough, and yet I'll be very much surprised if you haven't overlooked this one completely. Have you ever thought of letter writing as one of the fine arts? It is, really. If you have a reputation as a writer of clever letters, you have achieved at least a small degree of fame. Your letters are more of a clue to your personality than you may imagine, because if they are sincere they contain a part of your own self. They should have a distinctive flavor—and although they may be demure, racy or a bit on the sophisticated side, they are truly a part of you. A letter is a substitute for your presence. You wouldn't send your Grandmother to see your best friend for you, so don't send letters that are stilted and completely devoid of the small talk of amusing incidents and minor tragedies that make your days full and happy.

Be sure you consider the person to whom you are writing. That is, letters that are written on the same day should not be carbon copies of each other. Perhaps the person to whom

you are writing wanted to come to school this fall herself, and couldn't make it. Be a bit considerate of her feelings and don't talk too much about the Junior Prom and the date for the football game. Remember to ask about her scottie and the Country Club dances. You will probably be spending the summer at home. Try to make your letters a tie that will help you keep contact with your friends and make it easier to fit into the group when you get home again.

In college it is easy to forget you have a family unless you want something that you have left at home or the bank account is low. Your family is one group, and probably the only one, that will not object if your letters are almost entirely about yourself. Why not take advantage of this and tell them all about the things you are doing? If you wish, you can make your letters a diary of all the important dances you have gone to, the picnics you have enjoyed, and the movies you have seen.

I like having a schedule for writing letters, not so definite that it may

never be altered, but something that makes it easier to remember how often I have written. I prefer to write short letters rather than long ones, because I can write them quickly and usually without too much interruption; then I can keep the mood in which I started to write. Here is one rule for writing letters that is very important—do not send any letter that you have written when you were feeling low.

One friend of mine has developed letter writing as a hobby until it has reached rather large proportions. She writes one or two letters a week to about twenty people, and my guess is that each letter is just as clever and amusing as she is herself. She uses green ink, but if you prefer brown or black, try to find a kind of note paper that with your color of ink spells "you." If you can illustrate your letters, grand. Pen and ink stick figures are simple enough for even those of us who are not too talented. Show your ingenuity in any way you choose, but be sure that the sum total from the writing on the envelope to the signature on the last page is "you".